SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—The attention of the Division Peishkars will be drawn to the difficulties pointed out and the complaints made by the Members. The question of giving increased commission to stamp vendors is under the consideration of Government. Government will also enquire as to the practicability of allowing the sale of stamp papers through Sub-Registrars' offices.

26. *Complaints against the several and frequent adjournments of original civil suits made by the subordinate Courts without examining the witnesses summoned.*

Mr. C. Raman Tampi (Member, Eraniel Taluk) said that, though there was a circular order of the High Court, that all civil cases should be disposed of without delay and without putting the parties to inconvenience and loss, the subordinate Courts, in disregard of that order, used to adjourn cases indefinitely. Besides, witnesses summoned could not often be examined on the fixed dates, owing to the circumstance that a good number of cases had been posted for hearing. The result was serious inconvenience, not to speak of the loss in money, which the suitors sustained by way of repeated process fee. The Member therefore prayed that this state of affairs should be mended.

Dewan's reply.— The attention of the High Court will be drawn to the matter.

27. *Certain modifications to the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation, V of 1071.*

Mr. T. Vasudevan Potti (Member, Travancore Jenmi Sabha) represented that, if the provisions of the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation, as at present worked, were carefully examined, it would become clear that, on the whole, the Regulation was harmful and ruinous. This, he said, was borne out by the complaints which both the Jenmis and the Kudiyans had been making for years past. In the opinion of the Member, it was necessary to have an enquiry made into the working of the present Regulation and to pass a new law, safeguarding the interests of the Jenmis. He urged that, if the above suggestion was considered impracticable, at least certain sections of the Regulation, which worked hardship, should be modified.

Mr. C. Krishna Aiyar (Member, Nedumangad Taluk) brought to notice the hardship and loss caused to the Kudiyans on account of the present system of payment of the *michavaram* in kind. He said that there was no standard nor had the Jenmies any settled head-quarters where the *michavaram* might be regularly paid. The cost of carriage and loss by surplus measurement, now entailed on the Kudiyans, was great; and the Member suggested the amendment of the Regulation, so as to obviate such hardsh

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SUBJECTS.

Dewan's reply.—Government consider that the time has come when an enquiry may be made into the working of the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation which has been in existence for 13 years. Action will now be taken to make such an enquiry.

28. Criminal breach of contract.

Mr. H. C. Westaway (Member, Central Travancore Planters' Association)was absent, and on his behalf, Mr. H.M. Knight said that the Central Travancore Planters' Association had addressed the Secretary of the Legislative Council, asking for the repeal of the ruling in Vol. 14 of the Travancore Law Reports, Appendix, page 32. The Association had also addressed the Darbar on the same subject, and the opinion of the Head Sirkar Vakil had been sent to them, in which the latter had pointed out that the ruling in Vol. 14 T. L. R. referred to prior payments, *i. e.*, payments made before the date of the agreement and therefore it did not apply to advances made on the date of the agreement and subsequent to it, and, after giving his reasons, the Head Sirkar Vakil had stated that no interference was necessary with the law on the subject. The case pending before the High Court, to which the Head Sirkar Vakil had referred, had been adjudicated upon and decided against the employer, *i. e.*, the Planter. The Court having ruled that only cash payments made at the time of making the contract could be recovered under the Breach of Contract Regulation, II of 1080, the Member said that subsequent advances made on account of the contract, as also advances made in provisions and stores, were not recoverable under the Regulation and the only remedy to recover such advances was by civil action, which was of no use to the Planters. The Member therefore prayed for the amendment of the law.

Dewan's reply.— The matter will be considered.

III. Forest, Cardamom &c.

29. That such of the lands in the Forest Reserves, as were useful for cultivation and where there were no trees, should be registered in the names of private individuals, in view to the better prosperity of the country and increased revenue to Government.

Mr. Ouseph Kuryayippu.—(Member, Muvattupuzha Taluk) stated that the chief imports of the State were rice and paddy, the reason being that the production of the State fell short of local requirements. Therefore he requested Government that such of the lands in the Forest Reserves as were useful for cultivation and where there were no trees, might be registered in the names of private individuals, in view to the better prosperity of the country and increased revenue to Government.

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